

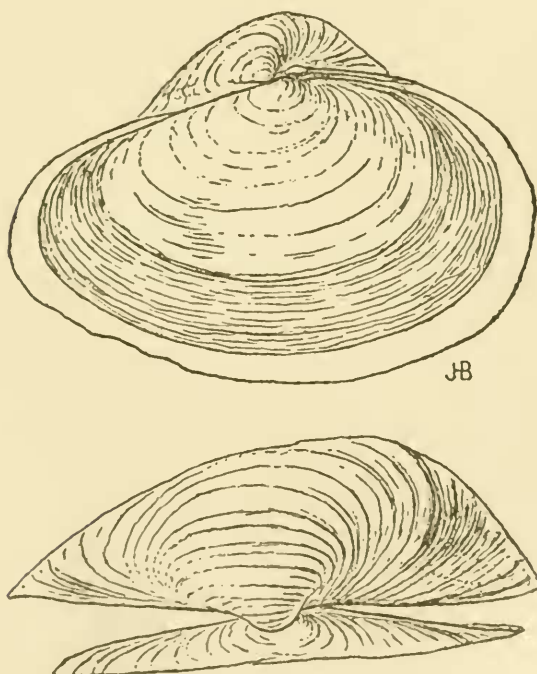
very weak in the smaller species, it resembles that of the Oleacinidae in at least one of the larger forms (*Recturtemon lessei*).

AN ABNORMAL CLAM

BY J. HENRY BLAKE

During my visit to Provincetown, Cape Cod, in August, there was given to me a curiously deformed clam, *Mya arenaria* Linn.

This specimen was dug with other normal clams from the



“flats” at the western end of the harbor by Mr. Newcomb, a native of the town. It was alive when taken and apparently as “happy” as its neighbors.

Its striking abnormality attracted my attention and I have

thought it of sufficient interest for the readers of THE NAUTILUS. The two illustrations here given, natural size, will show the appearance of the specimen better than any words I may offer.

The right valve is much smaller, quite flat, in one part a little concave, and about half covered with a yellowish epidermis. The left valve is extremely convex and thicker than the right, its umbone projecting over the latter, and with slight radiations on the anterior part.

One can easily contemplate the volition of some enthusiastic paleontologist who found such a shell in a fossil state, and it suggests a lesson to the hasty so-called species maker.

CONCHOLOGISTS IN THE MAKING

BY EDWIN E. HAND

Hyde Park High School, Chicago, Illinois

As aftermath of the World War, it seems that very little can be accomplished without "a drive." There's a drive for this and a drive for that, a lot of advertising is done, a day set apart and the trick is turned.

Since no one has started a drive for future conchologists we are pegging away in the good old-fashioned way. If results are inadequate, why not have a DRIVE?

Given 150 young boys and girls about 14, to be taught general science, how do we get them interested in the lowly snails and their shells.

A tea strainer securely tied to a stick six feet long accompanies us to Jackson Park, just south of the beautiful art building of World's Fair fame. On the bottom of the clear water lagoon, within easy reach, lie thousands of *Goniobasis* and *Pleurocera*. On the bank, with eager, expectant faces, stand 40 of these boys and girls seeing a snail for the first time in their lives.

A few sweeps of the tea strainer and enough snails are gathered to place in their outstretched hands all the specimens they wish to take home and place in their "glass of water" aquar-